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Reply to Office Action of December 22, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-10 remain pending for examination. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended by the instant response. No claims have been canceled or added.

Section 102 Rejection of Claims 1, 4 and 9

Claims 1, 4 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0033159 to Altomare et al. ("the Altomare Application").

An aspect of the present invention as substantively recited in amended independent claims 1 and 9, is "packaging encrypted electronic document data and processed electronic document data as a parcel comprising both the encrypted electronic document data and the processed electronic document data." Another aspect of the present invention is "un-packaging received parcel into processed electronic document data and encrypted electronic document data." Applicants submit that the Altomare Application does not teach or suggest either of these claim elements.

The Altomare Application describes an interface module for carrying out transaction based electronic commerce. Specifically, the Altomare Application describes an interface module capable of encrypting and compressing data for transmission to a receiving portal (See ¶¶ [0104], [0106], and [0107]). However, the Altomare Application only teaches the transmission of "encrypted and compressed data". More specifically, Altomare produces encrypted data, and then Altomare compresses that encrypted data. Altomare, thus describes transmitting encrypted data that has been further processed by compression. By comparison, the pending claims recite transmission of a "parcel comprising both [1] encrypted electronic document data and [2] processed electronic document data". Altomare's encrypted data which is compressed is entirely different from a parcel comprising (1) encrypted document data and (2) processed document data.

Furthermore, the purpose of the compression as described in the Altomare Application is to speed up data transmission (See ¶[0106]). Therefore, transmission of a parcel containing both encrypted document data and processed document data would contradict the material purpose of the Altomare Application since the pending claims recite transmitting two documents: encrypted document data and processed document data. As such, the Altomare Application fails to even

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suggest "packaging both encrypted electronic document data and processed electronic document data as a parcel."

Additionally, the Altomare Application does not teach or suggest "un-packaging a received parcel into encrypted electronic document data and processed electronic document data." Since the Altomare Application does not teach or suggest the packaging of both encrypted document data and processed document data, it naturally follows that the Altomare Application does not teach or suggest the un-packaging of a parcel comprising both encrypted document data and processed document data. Therefore, the Altomare Application fails to anticipate all the elements of the pending claims.

Section 103 Rejections

All remaining claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious based upon the Altomare Application in combination with other cited references. Applicants submit that the remaining claims depend from either independent claims 1 or 9, and therefore incorporates all of its limitations. As such, the dependent claims are allowable for at least the reason they depend from an allowable base claim.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

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